

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 416

February 1, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes the release of confidential records of domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and human trafficking service providers to the Department of Children's Services (DCS) upon request for the purpose of investigating known or suspected child abuse, neglect, or child sexual abuse. Requires DCS to maintain the confidentiality of such records as required by state law.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-3-623(a), the confidential records of domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and human trafficking service providers may be released under the following circumstances:
 - The individual to whom the records pertain authorizes their release; or
 - A court approves a subpoena for the records, subject to such restrictions as the court may impose, including in camera review.
- The proposed legislation will expand these circumstances to include release to DCS upon request for the purpose of investigating known or suspected child abuse, neglect, or child sexual abuse.
- Authorizing the release of certain records will have no significant fiscal impact to state or local government.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic".

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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